

Eye to the Future 2020 Update

Issue 3

June/July 2000

Upcoming Activities

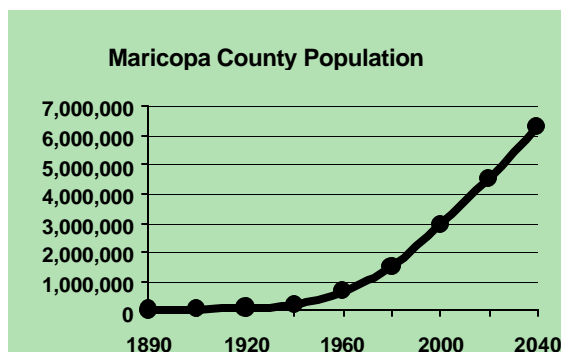
Public Workshops

During the summer and early fall, Maricopa County will hold the second series of public workshops regarding the Comprehensive Plan update. This update is being done in order to comply with the requirements of the Growing Smarter Act of 1998, and the more recent Growing Smarter Plus Act. When complete, the updated plan will include several new elements, including planning for growth areas, considering areas for open space, analyzing the environmental and fiscal effects of growth, and a study of Maricopa County water resources.

The upcoming workshops will be highly interactive using new computer mapping techniques. Below is a list of July workshop dates, times, and locations.

- Wednesday, July 12, 6:00 p.m., Gila Bend School, Gila Bend
- Wednesday, July 19, 6:00 p.m., Estrella Community College, Avondale
- Wednesday, July 26, Ruth Fischer Elementary School, Tonopah
- Monday, July 31, 6:00 p.m., Hassayampa Elementary School, Wickenburg

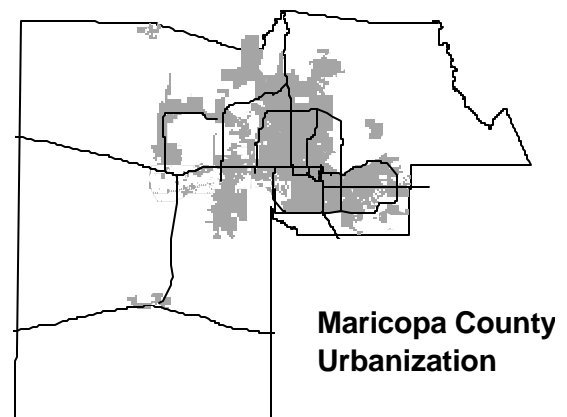
If you need an address or directions for any of these meetings, please feel free to contact us. Also note that information regarding August and September meetings will be included in a future newsletter. We hope to see you at an upcoming workshop!



Workshop Format

New Technology Increases Public Participation

New technology is changing the way people communicate and interact. New technology is also allowing Maricopa County planning staff and citizens to work together in ways not possible just a few years ago.



One new technology in particular is providing even greater opportunities for citizen interaction and participation. This new technology is known as *Geographic Information Systems* (GIS). For the first time, Maricopa County will use GIS technology at the upcoming workshops to visually map and display your recommendations. This unique and exciting format will allow you to instantly see the potential results, benefits, and/or consequences of your recommendations regarding future growth in Maricopa County.

Besides an interactive mapping activity, staff and participants will identify specific ways to implement the updated Comprehensive Plan. This will include an overview of methods that Maricopa County is and is not entitled to use to accommodate growth. The discussion, along with the interactive mapping exercise, will provide citizens and staff with specific ideas about how to accommodate growth in a way that protects our County's quality of life.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Maricopa County Trail Program

Earlier this year, the Board of Supervisors announced the formation of the Maricopa County Trail Commission. The goal of the commission is to develop a regional trail to connect the County park system, link recreation corridors, and help preserve open space.

The Trail will be created by linking open space projects and trail systems into a loop around the county. Some of these trails already exist, some are in planning stages, and some might have to be created from scratch. The trails cross through many jurisdictions, communities, and properties, so partnerships and agreements are key to creating the overall trail system. Maricopa County will serve as the facilitator to bring all the different links together.

For more information regarding the Maricopa County Trail Program, please visit the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation website at <http://www.maricopa.gov/trail>

How to Contact us

If you would like more information regarding the Comprehensive Plan update, about upcoming workshops, or about how to get involved in the Plan update process, please visit our web site at

<http://www.maricopa.gov/planning/complan>, or contact us at the following address:

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